

**BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 27, 2014**

The bi-monthly meeting of the Bristol Warren Regional School Committee was held on Monday, January 27, 2014, in the cafeteria of Mt. Hope High School, 199 Chestnut Street, Bristol, RI. Chairman Silva called the meeting to order at approximately 7:03 PM.

Present: Paul Silva, Chairman; Karen Lynch, Secretary; Susan Rancourt, Treasurer; Diana Campbell, Marjorie McBride, William O'Dell, John Saviano, Lynn Wainwright, Melinda L. Thies, Superintendent; Mario Andrade, Assistant Superintendent; Pauline A. Silva, Director of Administration and Finance; Mary N. Almeida, Director of Literacy and Title I; and Andrew Henneous, Esq., District Solicitor

OPENING BUSINESS

All present were invited to join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ACCOLADES

The District Holiday Greeting Card, for the past several years, has

been designed by a student. This year we asked Art Teacher, Sarah Jacobs, to have some students at Rockwell School create a design for consideration. Several students submitted their drawings; they were all very special but only one could be chosen for the card. We have a gift certificate to Don's Art shop for the artist whose drawing was used on the 2013 Holiday Card:

fifth grader – Zoe Fournier-Swire

Bristol Warren is the only district in the state to have two of its students serving on the Rhode Island Interscholastic League Student Advisory Board. The Mt. Hope High School students who were chosen to serve on this board are:

Kristina Lynch, Chairperson Student Advisory Board, RIIL

Emma Pattie, Board Member, RIIL

MT. HOPE HIGH SCHOOL FALL SPORTS 2013 ALL STATE

CROSS COUNTRY (GIRLS)

Katarina Heyden 2nd Team All-Metro &

Individual State Meet Qualifier

Hazel Baldwin-Kress Academic All-State

FOOTBALL

Nicholas Murgo 1st Team All-Division & 1st Team All-State

Kyle Valenzuela 1st Team All-Division

Jared Ramos 1st Team All-Division

Aidan Silva 1st Team All-Division

Jared Sousa 2nd Team All-Division

David Ramos 2nd Team All-Division

Ian Whitaker 2nd Team All-Division

Jesse Raiola 2nd Team All-Division

SOCCER (BOYS)

Matthew Cabral 1st Team All-Division

Jonathon Mota 1st Team All-Division

Jake Foreman 2nd Team All-Division

Jose Lima 2nd Team All-Division

Andrew J. Medeiros 3rd Team All-Division

Michael Tyler RIIL All-Academic

SOCCER (GIRLS)

Kellsie Mitchell 1st Team All-Division, Division I

Kaelyn Silveira 1st Team All-Division, Division I

Hayley Cambrola Sportsmanship Award, Division I

TENNIS (GIRLS)

Lauren Fletcher 1st Team All-Division (Singles)

Simone Verria 1st Team All-Division (Singles)

Sarah Leger 1st Team All-Division (Doubles)

Marisa Silva 1st Team All-Division (Doubles)

Haley Ferreira 2nd Team All-Division (Singles)

Catherine McGee 2nd Team All-Division (Singles)

VOLLEYBALL

Emma Pattie 3rd Team All-Division, Division II

North & Team Sportsmanship Award,

Division II North

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Silva stated for the record that there was no need for an Executive Session.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND ISSUES

Chairman Silva stated that all items listed on the consent agenda are considered routine by the School Committee and are enacted in one motion. There is no separate discussion of consent agenda items unless requested by a committee member, in which case the item(s) are withdrawn from the general order of business and considered in the normal sequence of the agenda. Hearing no item withdrawal

requests, Chairman Silva requested a vote.

MOTION: Mr. Saviano made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda; seconded by Mrs. Campbell. The motion passed unanimously.

S2014-02 A-H: CONSENT AGENDA - PERSONNEL

A. APPOINTMENTS: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following applicants to the positions of Secondary Foreign Language Teacher and Secondary After-School Academic Support Program Coordinator as listed below:

1. Elizabeth A. Durvin Spanish Teacher – Mt. Hope High

Effective: February 1, 2014 through
April 4, 2014 only

Reason: To fill a leave of absence
vacancy (S. Richards)

Funding: Operational Budget
(1st Step)

2. William Gaine III After-School Academic Support

Program Coordinator – Mt. Hope High

**Effective: For the 2013-14 School
Year**

Reason: To fill a new position

Funding: Operational Budget

B. BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following applicants to the School of the 21st Century, Before and After School Program, as listed below (pending sufficient enrollment to warrant running this program and DCYF CANTS clearance):

1. Matthew Vargas Child Care Site Coordinator (Part Time)

**Effective: Immediately, for the
remainder of the 2013-14 school
year, pending satisfactory completion
of pre-employment requirements**

Reason: To fill a vacancy

Funding: Parent Fees/Self-Sufficient

2. Vanessa E. Ferreira Child Care Provider (Part Time)

**Effective: Immediately, for the
remainder of the 2013-14 school
year, pending satisfactory completion
of pre-employment requirements**

Reason: To fill a vacancy

Funding: Parent Fees/Self-Sufficient

3. Paula A. DesLauriers Child Care Provider (Part Time)

**Effective: Immediately, for the
remainder of the 2013-14 school
year, pending satisfactory completion
of pre-employment requirements**

Reason: To fill a vacancy

Funding: Parent Fees/Self-Sufficient

**C. EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES: That the School Committee
confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the**

following applicants to the extracurricular positions listed below for the 2013-14 school year only (pending certification, funding and sufficient sign-ups to warrant running these programs):

WINTER COACHES – MT. HOPE HIGH

Sport Position Coach

- 1. Basketball (Boys) Asst. Coach Thomas Fullen**
- 2. Swimming Asst. Coach Heather Beardsworth ***
- 3. Track (Indoor) (Boys) Head Coach Andrew Sabourin**

SPRING COACHES – MT. HOPE HIGH

Sport Position Coach

- 4. Lacrosse (Girls) Asst. Coach Andrea Nogueira**

CLUB COACHES – KICKEMUIT MIDDLE

Sport Position Coach

- 5. Lacrosse (Boys) ** Head Coach Tyler Dixon**

*** Pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements**

**** Funded by parents group**

D. CERTIFIED SUBSTITUTES: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to place on file in the office of the Superintendent the following applications for certified substitutes pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment

requirements:

CERTIFIED

Name Area/Level

- 1. Lisa M. Couto Elementary**
- 2. Sharon A. Doherty School Nurse Teacher**
- 3. Kaitlin M. Falls Elementary/Sp.Ed.**
- 4. Kathleen K. Ibbotson General Subject Matter**
- 5. Mary L. Klette General Subject Matter**
- 6. Elizabeth O'Connell Elementary/Sp.Ed./
Reading Specialist**
- 7. Lindsey M. Robinson Elementary**

8. Tracey A. Saloman English

9. Audrey Thorpe Health/Physical Education

10. Tanya Travers Elementary

E. CLASSIFIED SUBSTITUTES: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to place on file in the office of the Superintendent the following applications for classified substitutes pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements:

TEACHER ASSISTANTS

1. Cynthia J. Osmanski

CUSTODIAN/MAINTENANCE

2. Victor S. Lopes

F. LEAVES OF ABSENCE: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant leaves of absence for two Elementary Teachers, an Elementary Special Educator and a Custodian as follows:

1. Vanessa M. Cronan Grade Four Teacher - Guiteras

Effective: April 27, 2014, for 6-8 weeks

Reason: Maternity leave in accordance with Article 21, Section L1 of the Master Agreement

2. Nicole B. Correia Grade Two Teacher – Colt Andrews

Effective: March 18, 2014, for 6-8 weeks

Reason: Maternity leave in accordance with Article 21, Section L1 of the Master Agreement

3. Erin K. Letourneau Special Educator – Hugh Cole

Effective: Upon completion of Maternity Leave through February 24, 2014

Reason: Parental leave in accordance with Article 21, Section

L2 of the Master Agreement

4. Peter F. Machado Custodian – Mt. Hope High

**Effective: January 6, 2014 for up to
one year, pending release from
physician**

**Reason: Leave in accordance with
Article 20 of the Master Agreement**

**G. LEAVE OF ABSENCE: That the School Committee confirm the
recommendation of the Superintendent to grant an extension of a
leave of absence for a Secondary Foreign Language Teacher as
follows:**

1. Sarah E. Richards Foreign Language Teacher – Mt. Hope High

**Effective: February 1, 2014 through
April 4, 2014**

**Reason: Parental leave in
accordance with
Article 21, Section L2 of
the Master Agreement**

H. RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignations of Steven M. Hamel from the position of Security Systems Technician, Chelsea Campanelli from the position of Child Care Site Coordinator, Emily J. Heney from the positions of Child Care Provider/Site Coordinator, Amy L. Sousa from the position of Senior Child Care Provider and Nancy J. Keyworth from the position of Parents as Teachers Educator as listed below:

**1. Steven M. Hamel Security Systems Technician –
Kickemuit Middle**

Effective: January 17, 2014

Reason: Personal

2. Chelsea Campanelli Child Care Site Coordinator

Effective: December 6, 2013

Reason: Personal

3. Emily J. Heney Child Care Provider/Site Coordinator

Effective: December 20, 2013

Reason: Personal

4. Amy L. Sousa Senior Child Care Provider

Effective: January 3, 2014

Reason: Personal

5. Nancy J. Keyworth Parents as Teachers Educator

Effective: December 16, 2013

Reason: Personal

RECOMMENDATION #S2014-03

That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approve the request of (2) Bristol families and (1) Warren family to home school their children for the 2013-2014 school year, adhering to all requirements as set forth by the Bristol Warren Regional School District.

MOTION: Mr. Saviano made a motion to approve the home school requests; seconded by Mrs. Campbell.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Saviano asked for clarification on whether the

home school requests as presented are families who decided to home school mid-year or whether the families have been home schooling since the beginning of the 2013-2014 academic year. Dr. Andrade responded saying that the home school applications were submitted in October. In order to receive all required information to fulfill the Rhode Island General Law and BWRSD Policies on homeschooling, it was necessary for the Assistant Superintendent's office to correspond on numerous occasions with these families to satisfy all mandates resulting in the later request for School Committee approval.

Mrs. Wainwright asked for clarification on families who use Bristol Warren Curriculum for home schooling. Dr. Andrade responded saying there are many home school families in the District who use Bristol Warren curriculum. The School Department only supplies the text books to the home school families, but there is no interaction with the teachers. All home school families must abide by the current BWRSD Home School Policy and RI General Law.

Mrs. McBride wanted to clarify for the public her reason for dissenting when a vote for home school approval is conducted saying she is concerned for the safety of the child. Mrs. McBride said, "I am not sure they are learning at all." Mrs. McBride stated she would start voting yes once there are measurements in place to ensure home school students are meeting academic standards as set forth by the Rhode Island Department of Education.

Dr. Andrade stated he has been in meetings with the District's Solicitor, Andrew Henneous, to examine the current home school laws as set forth by the State and the current BWRSD Home School Policy. The intent of this review is to design a strategic home school policy for BWRSD that won't be overturned. In the meantime, Dr. Andrade said that it is important to support home school request recommendations in order for the District to move forward strategically. Mrs. Thies added that federal and state law mandates that school districts are obligated to support home school requests.

Chairman Silva said he would speak with the Superintendent and Asst. Superintendent about placing the BWRSD Home School Policy on a future School Committee Workshop Meeting Agenda.

The motion to approve the home school requests passed with a 5-2 vote; Mrs. McBride and Mrs. Wainwright dissenting.

RECOMMENDATION #S2014-04:

That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Policy/Community Affairs Subcommittee, approve the first reading of the Subcommittees of the School Committee Policy (BCE-R).

MOTION: Mrs. McBride made a motion to approve the first reading of the

Subcommittees of the School Committee Policy (BCE-R); seconded by Mr. Saviano. The motion passed unanimously.

CHAIRPERSON'S INITIATIVES

Chairman Silva encouraged School Committee members to attend the next PTO Group meeting which is scheduled for Wednesday night, January 29th at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at Colt Andrews School in the 2nd Floor multipurpose room. Chairman Silva commented that the PTO meetings are a great opportunity for School Committee members to speak informally with the parents group.

SUBCOMMITTEE/SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS AND INITIATIVES

Budget/Facilities Subcommittee

Mrs. Rancourt commented that she attended an interesting meeting of the Joint Finance Committee which was held last Wednesday, January 22nd. Mrs. Rancourt stated that the District is currently in the 2015 fiscal year budget cycle. The next meeting of the Budget/Facilities Subcommittee will be held on Wednesday, February 19th at 6:00 p.m. The agenda focus will be the FY15 budget for the purpose of ensuring that budget numbers are solidified for presentation to the Joint Finance Committee.

Policy Subcommittee

Mr. O'Dell reported that the next meeting of the Policy/Community Affairs Subcommittee will be held on Monday, February 3, 2014 at

6:30 PM. Agenda items will include a continued discussion concerning proposed changes to the handbook relative to early dismissal for prom preparation. In addition, the Subcommittee will be reviewing the Text Book Adoption Policy.

Personnel/Contract Negotiations Subcommittee

Chairman Silva reported he is still waiting on confirmation for a preliminary meeting with the BWEA; possibly, on February 5th.

Wellness Sub-Committee

Mrs. Wainwright reported that the Wellness Subcommittee is preparing to disseminate the newly revised Health & Wellness Policy to the Schools and community.

Mrs. Wainwright stated that recently a Wellness Survey was conducted. The Wellness Committee reviewed the survey results to determine areas needing improvement. Those areas in need of improvement were staff wellness and professional development. As part of an initiative to strengthen the area of staff wellness, the Bristol Warren Schools website currently has a wellness page. In addition, staff members now have access, during specified times, to the Huskey Fitness Center free of charge.

Mrs. Wainwright shared the following information about the 1st Annual East Bay Community Wellness Fitness Challenge: “In cooperation with Shaun Pacheco the owner of “All Generations

Fitness”, the first annual “East Bay Community Wellness Fitness Challenge” had its kick-off on Sunday, January 26th at 9:00 a.m. at the New Bristol Parks & Recreation, Quinta-Gamelin Community Center, on Asylum Rd. The 10 week program costs participants \$10 to register. Included in the program are fitness events, nutrition education workshops, a personal trainer and lifestyle coach, motivation, support, accountability, results and FUN! There will be a weekly weigh-in and prizes. The activities for the fitness challenge will be held every Tuesday.”

Mrs. Wainwright reported that she is hoping to get approval for Wellness Week soon. The tentative dates are Monday, May 5th through Friday, May 9th with ACES being held on Wednesday, May 7th.

ADJOURNMENT – 7:38 PM

MOTION: There being no further business to discuss, Mrs. McBride motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 PM; seconded by Mrs. Campbell. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen A. Lynch, Secretary

/kd